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14 January 1953

ITEM 6

Psychological Strategy Plan for Southeast Asia
(PSB D-23)

Summary: The Director of PSB forwards this plan with the recognition that it has shortcomings, but asks that the Board approve it in principle and handle revisions as corrigenda to the basic paper.

The principal value of the paper is the listing in Sections V and VI of psychological objectives and undertakings for Southeast Asia designed to integrate the attack against Communism in this area and to amplify the policies established in NSC 124/2.

The CIA staff believes that Section IV, B.7, (page 6), of the plan limits the freedom of action of the 10/2 and 10/5 committees. Substitution of the attachment for the existing paragraph is recommended.

The staff feels that the paper in general would be improved by more precise language and by further revision.

CIA is informed that Defense plans to ask that the paper be referred back to the panel for further development. In view of the above comments, it is recommended that CIA concur with Defense.

Recommendation: That you offer the attached substitution for Section IV, B.7, and concur in the Defense recommendation that the Southeast Asia plan be returned to the panel for further development.

NSC review(s) completed.

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